

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action of November 30, 2006, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 13 and 26-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over the patent to Kurozumi.

Claims 14-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Kurozumi in view of the patent to Wu.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has canceled claims 16-21, 24 and 25, amended claims 13-15 and 26, and added new dependent claim 29.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions and methods disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references, and particularly to the patent to Kurozumi, it can be seen that this patent discloses a wiring arrangement for an engine fuel injector. Kurozumi discloses a wiring harness 14 for connecting an electronic motor control unit (ECU) with an injector (see Fig. 1, and column 3, lines 50-59).

The injector harness 14 has a grommet 17 with holes 27 (see Fig. 6). The harness 14 has four core wires 30 which extend through the holes 27 (see Fig. 7, and column 4, lines 34-40).

It is therefore clear that the wire harness of Kurozumi is unitary, i.e. made of one piece. The wiring harness extends without mechanical breaks through a plug or an outlet from the electronic control unit to the injector.

In the presently claimed invention the wiring harness has two distinct parts, namely the first section 4 and the second section 5. The second section 5 is permanently fixed to the conductor strip of the terminal carrier while the first section 4 is detachably connected to the terminal carrier via uninsulated wires. This can be seen in Fig. 1. There is no disclosure of such a construction by Kurozumi.

In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 13 and 26-18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over the above-discussed reference is overcome and should be withdrawn.

The patent to Wu discloses an electrical connector having an improved latch mechanism. This reference is not concerned with the transfer of signals from an electronic engine control unit to an injector arranged in the cylinder head of an internal combustion engine. Presumably, Wu deals with a plug with a flat ribbon cable (see Terminal Insert 60) for a PC.

The Examiner combined these references in determining that claims 14-25 would be unpatentable over such a combination. Applicant respectfully submits that the teachings of a two piece wire harness with a plug and an outlet, as taught by Wu is not combinable with the teachings of a one piece wiring harness as taught by Kurozumi. There is no motivation for combining these two different types of wiring harnesses. Additionally, the two part construction of the presently claimed invention does not have a plug. In the present invention the bare wires form the end of the first section.

In summary, applicant submits that there is no motivation for combining the teachings of Wu with Kurozumi. However, even if the references are

combinable they do not teach the invention recited in the claims presently on file.

In view of the these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 14-25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over a combination of the above-discussed references is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on February 26, 2007

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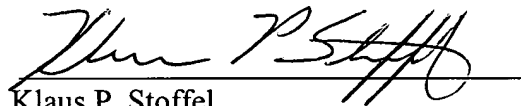
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Signature

February 26, 2007

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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